
CENTRAL REGION YOUTH COUNCIL
Monday, January 24, 2005
1385 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah
Monthly Meeting Minutes
3:00 p.m.

Presiding: Paul Jackson, Chair

Present: Joeann Bartlett, Sandra Hemmert, Don Johnson, Akilah Messado, Kevin Miller (for John Latkiewicz), Jon Pierpont, Gay Pinnecoose, Jude Schmid, Linda Skinner for (Linda Fife), Peter Smith (for Janet Wolf), Claire Turner, Sheri VanBibber, Ali Wilkinson

Absent: Lona Walton

Excused: James Andersen, Betty Barker, Greg Diven, Rep. Brent Goodfellow, David Melville, Dr. Stephen Ronnenkamp

Guests: Kent Fitzgerald-SL Co YES, Mike Gallegos-SL Co YES, Kristin Wood

Staff: Karla Aguirre, Rebecca Banner, Steve Leyba, Diane Lovell, Brad Newsome, Mary Peterson

Welcome and Announcements

Chairman Paul Jackson called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm with attendee introductions. He circulated copies of the State Youth Council Quarterly Newsletter that included updates on regional activities. Mr. Jackson recognized Jude Schmid for contributing to the Newsletter on behalf of the Central Region.

Paul Jackson then welcomed Brad Newsome, DWS Assistant Deputy Director whose emphasis will be on Economic Development.

Mr. Jackson referred to a handout announcing the YES Ground Hog Job Shadow Day scheduled on February 2, 2005.

Chairman Jackson referred to a copy of the current Youth Council Membership Roster and asked that revisions be given to Diane Lovell or Mary Peterson.

Approval of October 18, 2004 Minutes

Paul Jackson asked for a motion to approve the Youth Council minutes of October 18, 2004. Sheri VanBibber moved the Youth Council minutes of October 18, 2004 be approved. Joeann Bartlett seconded the motion. All voted "Aye". The motion passed.

DWS Legislative Priorities

Paul Jackson indicated that Michael Sullivan was unable to attend the meeting due to legislative obligations. He then referred to the DWS legislative priorities and summarized each. Copies of the bill summaries were included in the Council packets. He also discussed the Regional Council's Legislative forum and other activities undertaken to support key legislation.

DWS Update

Steve Leyba provided the Council with information regarding the current transition. Mr. Leyba noted that Raylene Ireland, the Executive Director for DWS offered her resignation. John Nixon, Finance Director is the current acting Executive Director. Mr. Leyba reiterated Governor Huntsman's commitment to economic development and that more information would be forthcoming regarding DWS involvement.

Transition to Adult Living - Progress Report

Joeann Bartlett referred the Council to a progress report handout summary of Key Strategies for the Transition to Adult Living. Several areas for the Year 2 Implementation Plan include:

- Positive Sense of Self
- Supportive and Enduring Relations
- Health Care Access
- Educational Attainment and Stable Employment
- Safe, Stable and Affordable Housing
- Marketing Plan
- Training Plan
- Administrative Functions

Paul Jackson encouraged everyone to take the time to study the detailed copy of the report information shared by Ms. Bartlett.

WIA Status and Performance Outcomes

Karla Aguirre began by discussing the Request for Proposals (RFP) and its timeline. She indicated that the current YES contract terminates in September and consequently a new provider of youth services must be solicited. She shared a handout detailing the RFP timeline and schedule, noting that the RFP release date will be during the week of February 14th. The RFP will be placed on the DWS website and notifications will be made to interested parties.

Under a 5-year (annual renewals) contract, the new successful youth services contractor will begin service delivery in October 2005. The evaluating committee will determine if there is one or more provider(s). Paul Jackson is part of the evaluation committee and will represent the interests of the Youth Council. Ms. Aguirre thanked Rebecca Banner who has been active in the RFP development process.

Karla Aguirre then presented YES performance evaluation information that included:

- Program Outcome Measures Summary for PY04-1st Quarter (Jul-Aug-Sept)
- Breakdown of Youth in each measure during specific timeframes
- Case Analysis (data from UWORKS) - Updated 1/10/2005
- UWORKS Case Management Report
- Activities of Youth Involvement - Updated 12/17/2005
- Analysis of Data

Karla Aguirre asked the Youth Council if the revised report format was beneficial. The Youth Council responded favorably and requested the information report be provided at each meeting.

Youth EmployAbility Services (YES) Program Update

Jude Schmid provided handouts corresponding with a PowerPoint presentation of the Youth Employability Services (YES) Program Update over the course of the last year and shared that their numbers were met. Ms. Schmid provided promotional material to Council members. She also reported that YES has developed a web page that is now live at www.yes.slco.org and are working on a link to the Just for Youth page.

Ms. Schmid then provided a recap of the number of youth that have been served since the beginning of the program year along with the accomplishments during this time.

Jude Schmid provided additional information and handout regarding the Ground Hog Job Shadow Day that will align with the DWS high demand/high growth industries. Representatives from five areas will attend this event. Ms. Schmid invited all to attend this presentation that will be held on February 2, 2005 at the Salt Lake County Complex, Room N2300.

More highlights of Ms. Schmid's Presentation follow:

- YES leadership program provided a presentation at DWS with an emphasis on getting more youth involved in the leadership program. A YES Leadership Council was formed under the name "Si" (YES in Spanish) which stands for Student Involvement. Most recently a winter fest was held in conjunction with the Salt Lake Community College where over a hundred individuals from low-income families with younger children participated in this activity.
- The YES leadership is also involved in volunteer services, which was organized by a young lady who wanted to work with animals. As a result of her organization she was able to do an internship at an animal shelter helping with the animals and in turn was able to gain employment as a Veterinarian Assistant at a local veterinarian hospital.
- Approximately 40 youth have gone through the Workplace Essentials classes that offered a curriculum developed in concert with Salt Lake Community College, the Salt Lake Chamber and the YES program. A big graduation celebration was held.
- A woman from the University of Utah met with staff on several occasions to help staff learn a technique on motivational interviewing to help prepare youth for changes opposed to self defeating thinking.
- A workshop will be held on January 31st to assist youth with techniques and skills to enable them to get in control of their lives and to move forward.

DOL strategic Vision

Chairman Jackson shared a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Youth Council Strategic Plan. Mr. Jackson emphasized the Youth Council mission which reads: "Coordinate resources to ensure the preparation of youth for successful employment". The purpose of the Regional Youth Council was also discussed along with key tactics and the new strategic approach across four major areas:

- Focus on Alternative Education
- Meeting the Demands of Business (Especially high growth industries)
- Focus on the Neediest Youth
- Focus on Improved Performance

A new strategic vision for Utah was outlined in November 2004. DWS will prioritize investments that will serve youth in the following categories:

- Foster Care
- Aging out of foster care
- Youth offenders
- Children of incarcerated parents
- Migrant youth

Paul Jackson referred the Council to "What's Next" with a focus on the "target groups" to:

- Discover how many youth fit into each category.
- Have Regional Youth Council update regional service priority systems to include children of incarcerated parents and migrant youth.
- Ensure targeted groups are covered in the youth RFP.

Mr. Jackson shared suggestions for the next steps and asked the Council for feedback and comments on the following:

1. Ensure we have the expertise of each targeted youth group on our Youth Council.
2. Organize sub committees to work on each targeted youth group and supportive initiative.

The proposed sub committees include:

- Foster care/Aging out of foster care
- Youth offenders
- Children of incarcerated parents/Migrant youth
- All other youth
- Communication/websites

Mr. Jackson proposed tactics to work with the DWS Central Region Director to:

- Identify the number and age of youth in each category
- Resource Mapping
 - Update regional services available to support each youth category/initiative
 - Identify alternative education options and how to access
- Develop tools and market resources

At the conclusion of Mr. Jackson's presentation, he opened the meeting for discussion regarding sub-committees. The discussion concluded with Mr. Jackson giving the Council an assignment to be completed by February 11, 2005, which included two questions:

1. Would each Youth Council member be willing to serve on a sub-committee? Why or why not.
2. What would you recommend as sub-committees?

The outcome of this assignment will be discussed at the next Youth Council meeting on March 21st.

March 21, 2005 Agenda Items and Meeting Calendar

Agenda items will be determined at a later date.

Other Business

There was no other business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Chairman Jackson asked everyone to be attendance for the next Youth Council meeting scheduled for March 21, 2005 at 3:00 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.